

ORIGINAL

Larson for Life for U.S. Senate

Box 413
Fargo ND 58107

January 20, 1993

RECEIVED

JAN 27 1993

Milton Gross
Political Programming Branch
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In re: MM Docket No. 92-254
Petition for Declaratory ruling

Dear Mr. Gross:

I do not think anyone can examine the enclosed correspondence and not come to the conclusion that the Larson for Life ads during the North Dakota special election campaign contributed to the political process and were in the public interest.

The protection of human life is a public issue of paramount importance. A federal candidate must be allowed to portray this issue in a way that shows its reality. The purpose of the ads is to protect children from slaughter. Unborn children are children too. Unless we can show the truth of what happens to them via licensees who have systematically censored this truth, they will continue to be senselessly and daily slaughtered. Those who desire a continuation of the barbarism of abortion should not be allowed to suppress this truth for the purpose of shielding immoral lifestyles from criticism.

No. of Copies rec'd
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As to particulars of the campaign, we never showed these commercials, contrary to certain published statements, during cartoon shows. Overall the Larson campaign broadcast 310 commercials in the eastern North Dakota market. (We have not yet received station logs from the Bismarck/Minot stations.) These commercials break down as follows:

<u>Network</u>	<u>Show</u>	<u>Occurrences</u>
ABC	ABC Soaps	42
ABC	Rush Limbaugh	29
ABC	Hard Copy	26
NBC	Donahue	24
NBC	Sally Raphael	20
CBS	6:00 News	20
ABC	Good Morning America	19
CBS	Noon News	18
ABC	Nightline	12
NBC	Oprah Winfrey	12
ABC	Maury Povich	11
ABC	6:00 News	10
NBC	Letterman	10
	Less than 10 Times	57

As you can see, our programming strategy was to select talk shows and news programs in the expectation that viewers of these programs would have an interest in public affairs and be likely voters. We ran ads in the ABC Soaps in hopes of reaching women who might be lured into immoral lifestyles by the content of these programs.

Most of our ads ran during the day or after 10:30 at night. The reason is simple: we could not afford prime time ad rates.

I hope the attached 10 letters will demonstrate the broad and intense support for the ad campaign run by the Larson for Life for U.S. Senate Committee. If we are to censor TV for content harmful to children we will all be very busy for a long time. If such a censorship board is established, we ask to participate in it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jody Clemens".

Jody Clemens
Campaign Coordinator

P.S. Mr. Van Louck runs a casino. His hands are not clean.
He has an interest in giving sin a good image.

Media hides abortion truth

PARK RIVER, N.D. — The article "Abortion enters the race," about Darold Larson's plans to air campaign ads showing aborted fetuses in his bid for the U.S. Senate, should have been titled, "Truth enters the race" (Page 1A, Oct. 6).

You have never and will never see this type of film footage on the network news because abortion advocates, including the news media, don't want the public to know the truth. These ads have been used successfully in other states because once the public sees the truth, they respond.

Larson's ads will indeed show that abortion kills life after it has begun and there is nothing that can keep the North Dakota public from learning the truth. Knowing this, the pro-choicers have set out to discredit the ads before they are aired. The Herald staff writer said the ads would "depict" aborted fetuses. To depict means to draw or paint, implying something "make believe." The ads are not; they will show the uncensored truth about abortion.

If you want to know the truth about abortion, watch the ads.

Howard M. Zent

GRAND

FORKS

HERALD

10/27/92

C. Meyer

St. Francis Convent
Hankinson, North Dakota
November 6, 1992

General Manager
WDAY TV
Fargo, North Dakota

Dear Sir:

I am writing to tell you that I am so appreciative of the fact that WDAY is not weakening under the negative responses to Darold Larson's campaign ads showing the truth about abortion. Many of your viewers think that although the images of dead human fetuses are hard to stomach, the broadcasting of them is long overdue. We believe that if television officials had been the men and women of unbiased integrity that they present themselves as, millions of human lives would have been saved over the last 18 years because these very images would've been exposed and held up as the unmatched disgrace of our time that they are.

Keep running them knowing that it is ultimately the best service you can provide for your audience today. It is estimated that 30 million abortions have taken place in our nation since Roe v Wade. Fargo alone allows the killing of at least one classroom of children each week. It can't go on forever...nothing in this life does. I am hoping and praying for the day when those in the television industry will become leaders and on their own initiative begin to tell and show the truth about abortion including the methods used in the various procedures. Imagine yourselves standing before God saying, "We told the truth." And He'll answer, "Yes, I know. I was there and saw it all."

Thank you,

Sr. Sara Marie Belisle, OSF.
Sr. Sara Marie Belisle, OSF
Hankinson, North Dakota

GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE

— Hats off to Darold Larson for using his election advertisements to challenge us to form an opinion about abortion and evaluate what we watch on television. His ads are bloody and offensive. But isn't that what abortion is?

None of us seem upset by the bloody surgeries on the Discovery and Lifetime channels, or by accident victims on "Rescue 911" and CNN.

Personally, I was offended by the ads for the nude college student on Maury Povich, the sex scene promotionals of "Entertainment Tonight" and "Knots Landing," the violent clips from "Hard Copy," and the misinformation Elizabeth Taylor is using to promote condom use as AIDS prevention. These are all prime time ads, but none of them have warning labels. Mr. Larson clearly warns people that they may be offended by his ads.

I ache for the little girl with nightmares. Our family has been there. Maybe we should see this as a challenge to take the time to watch all the TV our kids do until the December election so we can know what they're watching, turn off inappropriate advertisements and programs, and speak out against all offensive shows.

Maybe we should also consider the fact that "abortion stops a beating heart."

Betty Lou Dean

FARGO — I see nothing wrong with the abortion ads on TV. They are graphic but they are factual. What is wrong is that this is what is being done to real — live — pre-born babies.

Kids who see these ads will wonder about the adults who allow this to happen to babies. Then they may think, "How safe am I? If this is what some grown-ups think is OK to do to babies. Will they do this to me? To older kids? Who is next? Who is safe?"

You can explain to your child some adults do think this is OK. Their security will be in knowing that you do not agree with these adults, (if you really don't). This is where the rubber hits the road. If you can't justify these pictures to your child, then it is time America to wake up and see the evil of abortion for the evil that it is.

Harriet Renville

□ □ □

HENSEL, N.D. — I see by the news that people are shocked by a political ad showing aborted fetuses. I agree it doesn't look good and isn't good viewing for children, but it illustrates the lie of the pro-choice group who have long insisted the unborn child is only a "blob of tissue."

Vincent Rambeck

GRAND FORKS HERALD

▼
November 11,
1992

It is not a mother's choice

Many people have expressed their views and disgust over the abortion ads run on TV. Some said that it made them sick, others said that their children had nightmares after seeing them.

Yes, I'm sure your children were frightened by what they saw. It is very frightening and ugly to witness a mutilated baby. It gives me nightmares too.

That is why I will not call it a mother's choice. Your child saw it, right. It was a death to an unborn baby, and its very own mommy had it put to death.

Ladies, maybe you should make wiser choices before you get pregnant. Don't use abortion as your method of birth control. And if you do become pregnant, believe me, there are many people waiting to adopt and love your precious little sweetheart.

As I understand it, the television ads were run during the day during adult television shows like Sally Jessy Raphael. The ads were aimed at adults watching these types of talk shows. What are your children doing watching adult talk shows? This should be of concern to you parents, too.

Dora Strierner
Lake Park, Minn.

Saturday, November 21, 1992

FARGO FORUM

Are only certain 'graphic' photos to be censored?

Defining photographs as being "graphic and offensive" has become a means of protecting the powerful.

Reality of war was brought to the public's attention 25 years ago by graphic photographs from the Vietnam War. Did The Forum criticize publication of those photographs as being offensive or "sick"? Censorship of the gruesome was applied only in regard to photographs of exhuming mass graves containing thousands of men, women and children after a brief Communist occupation of the Vietnamese city Hue. Many of the victims had their hands tied behind their backs with wire. Since powerful Communists had to be protected, those photographs were "sick."

The Forum editorial of Nov. 9 does not claim that graphic photographs of abortion products are deceptive. Does the public have a right to learn the reality of abortion as well as the reality of war?

Censorship to protect elite males who need the choice of abortion to protect their lifestyles is sick. A lifestyle of using women as concubines and protecting themselves by abortion is sick. It is sick to support censorship of the "graphic" in order to protect "offensive" behavior.

Wesley Olson
Clinton, Minn.

JAMESTOWN SUN

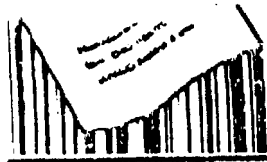
11/27/92

Anti-abortion ads have a place

The concern of an official of a major news network about the running of the anti-abortion ads is misplaced. Of course, they should be run.

The concern should rather center on all the sex garbage we see (if we watch TV) on almost every program you can name. Sex for a husband and wife is beautiful but portrayed as it is on our screens, it becomes garbage. Why won't our networks begin to put back on some decent viewing?

Mrs. George Johnson
Jamestown



Letters

We welcome pictures that show the truth

FARGO FORUM

Dec. 1, 1992

Jesus once said, "Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

Public discussion about the appropriateness of U.S. Senate candidate Darold Larson's ads raises many issues, most of them important. Beneath many of them is this one: Is television, as a medium, able to portray truth? Can a medium that thrives on creating images at variance with reality withstand the dissonance created by being required to display pictures that reflect truth?

Not all truth is pleasant. Some of it is shocking. We do not need to see everything that is true. For that reason, I, for one, would oppose the publication or broadcast of materials that are exploitatively sexually explicit or degrade women, children or men. But when I see the distended stomachs of malnourished children in Africa and can do something about their condition by writing a check to World Vision or urging our government to act, the broadcasters do me a service by helping me understand the truth, or some part of it. I don't hear people criticizing Bryant Gumbel for including such pictures on the "Today Show."

Similarly, when I see the picture of a child who has been dismembered in the name of choice, those who help me see the truth, or part of it, have done me a service, even if the sight is not pleasant, because as part of the citizenry, I can do something about that child's plight. One does not have to agree with all of Larson's tactics to appreciate this occasion for truth to be broadcast.

The question all of us need to ask is, whose side are we on? If we are on the side of truth, we will welcome pictures that accurately reflect the truth, even if they make us sick.

Dr. Greg Scharf

Pastor, Salem Evangelical Free Church
Fargo

Abortion supporters don't want people to see other side

CROOKSTON — Are the pro-abortion people ever afraid? They are really scared of letting people see the truth of abortion as shown in Darold Larson's political ads. Now, they are seizing the tapes so they can't be shown.

This whole episode sure blows a hole in their so-called "pro-choice" agenda. Choice implies knowing both sides, then making an informed choice. The pro-abortionists know that if women realize and see the reality of abortion, their choice would more likely be life rather than the cruel death of their unborn babies. The only choice the pro-abortionists support is death.

Parents are complaining that their children are seeing these gruesome ads. Yes, they are gruesome. Truth often is. How many times did young children see the beating of Rodney King? How many times do children see other acts of violence on TV? Even their cartoons are violent.

One parent said to me, "My little girl is too young to be affected by these other forms of violence. My answer, "Then she won't be affected by the ads either." However, we know children are affected by all acts of violence they see. The parents need to explain all of them, teaching their kids that violence is wrong and must be stopped. Then tell them one thing they can do even at their young age. Pray to God that the wicked violence of abortion, abuse, beatings, etc. will end.

Betty Brouillet

Show the abortion ads before more damage is done

EAST GRAND FORKS — In regard to the outcries against pro-life advertising that have been made in the name of protecting our children from viewing such atrocities.

It often is these same children who are getting pregnant and having abortions. Parents are telling their children where babies come from, and the school system starts at a very early age all about sex. Why not show them the consequences of sex and what abortions are all about, too.

Show them before the damage is done.

Elizabeth Triske